

Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 107932

EXDIS, TOSEC 967

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 107932 ACTION ALL NATO CAPITALS 23
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S E C R E T STATE 107932

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: NATO DECLARATION

1. IN THE COURSE OF MAY 22 CALL ON SONNENFELDT AND
HARTMAN, FRG AMBASSADOR VON STADEN INQUIRED WHETHER
THE US EXPECTED THE NATO DECLARATION TO BE SIGNED AT
THE OTTAWA MINISTERIAL MEETING. IF SO, HE POINTED OUT,
THIS WOULD MEAN THAT THE DOCUMENT WOULD NOT BE ISSUED
AT SUMMIT LEVEL. HARTMAN RESPONDED THAT THE US PREFER-
RED TO LEAVE OPEN FOR THE TIME BEING THE QUESTION OF
HOW THE TEXT WOULD BE PROMULGATED. AT THIS STAGE, WE
HOPE THAT AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED ON THE TEXT PRIOR
TO THE OTTAWA MEETING, SO THAT THE DECLARATION COULD
BE ISSUED THERE IF DESIRED. IN ANY CASE, US BELIEVES
THAT A SUITABLY SOLEMN AND APPROPRIATE DECLARATION

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WOULD BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO MARK NATO'S 25TH

ANNIVERSARY. THUS, THE US STRONGLY FAVORS A DECLARATION RATHER THAN A COMMUNIQUE.

2. HARTMAN NOTED THAT RECENT REPORTS FROM BONN SUGGESTED THAT, BECAUSE SO MUCH EFFORT HAD BEEN EXPENDED UPON THE FRENCH DRAFT TEXT, SOME FRG OFFICIALS BELIEVED IT BETTER TO CONTINUE TO WORK FROM THE FRENCH DRAFT. IN CONTRAST, WE BELIEVE THE UK DRAFT PROVIDES A GOOD BASIS ON WHICH TO PROCEED, INCLUDES THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE EARLIER FRENCH TEXT, AND EFFECTIVELY MEETS US CONCERNS.

WHILE WE WILL HAVE SOME CHANGES TO SUGGEST TO THE UK TEXT, WE SUPPORT IT. SONNENFELDT POINTED OUT THAT THE UK TEXT IS A LINEAL DESCENDANT OF THE FRENCH DRAFT.

3. REFERRING TO CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY BELGIAN OFFICIALS ABOUT WORKING FROM THE NEW UK TEXT, HARTMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY UNHELPFUL IF THE ALLIES WERE TO FIND THEMSELVES ONCE AGAIN IN A SITUATION WHERE IT COULD BE SAID PUBLICLY THAT THE US SOUGHT AGREEMENT ON A DECLARATION, WHILE THE EUROPEANS PREFERRED TO ISSUE A COMMUNIQUE. IN HIS VIEW, THIS WOULD UNDERCUT THE SPIRIT OF THE EXERCISE AND THE PURPOSE OF ATTEMPTING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A TEXT SATISFACTORY TO ALL.

SECRETARY HAD MADE THIS POINT IN EARLIER CONVERSATIONS, AND THE FRENCH ARE BEING INFORMED OF OUR STRONG PREFERENCE FOR A DECLARATION.

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